# **Feedback**

## From the Editor

THIS month's cover photo of SSG Maurice Greening is courtesy of the Army Reserve's SSG Jack Siemieniec. More of his outstanding work may be found accompanying Heike Hasenauer's "First Step to an Army of One."

Obtaining high quality photographs remains one of the most difficult challenges faced by any magazine staff, especially Soldiers.

Unlike our sister services' magazines, Soldiers does not have a staff of photographers dedicated solely to providing images fit for magazine publication. We rely primarily on submissions from the field.

At no time is the need for compelling images greater than when Soldiers' staff is putting together its premiere issue, The Soldiers Almanac, published each January. A pictorial preservation for posterity, the Almanac is a snapshot in time of what our Army looked liked that year.

Because the Almanac is such a massive undertaking, we have already started building the next one and we need your photos — now.

To see how you can help tell your Army's story in your magazine, see page 29.

John & Suttle

#### **More Pearl Harbor**

DID **Soldiers** magazine receive a fee for advertising "Pearl Harbor," the love movie? I am disappointed at your conduct, and that of the L.A. Branch, for helping to pass off the movie as a close-to-history remake. The Army and the nation would have been better served reading and viewing actual photos and accounts of what happened.

By the way, the Margraten article was good, but don't we have military cemeteries in the USA?

Stephen D'Urso Via e-mail

TAKING your last question first, yes. The Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration maintains 119 national cemeteries in 39 states and Puerto Rico as well as 33 soldiers' lots and monument sites. In addition, many states maintain veteran's cemeteries. But few of them enjoy the devoted care and honor bestowed on Margraten by a still-grateful community and nation.

As to your first question, no. As a matter of fact, it cost **Soldiers** to have a staff writer stop off at Pearl Harbor for a few days while returning from another TDY assignment to get the story of the Army's and individual soldiers' involvement in the film project.

We'll leave it to viewers to judge the film's historical accuracy, but the larger purpose served — in the words of several attack survivors who expressed their views about the Pearl Harbor movie — is that the movie keeps fresh in the minds of younger generations the horror and devastation of that "Day of Infamy."

Readers and viewers interested in "closer-to-history" ac-

## **Corps, Not Division**

YOUR May issue's Postmarks section has a story on Russia's Col.-Gen. Georgii Shpak's visit to Fort Bragg, N.C. The caption under the photo should read XVIII Airborne Corps' 3rd Battalion, 229th Avn. Regt., and not 82nd Airborne Division's. Thank you very much and we appreciate your continued support.



SGT Eric P. Jones via e-mail

#### **Pearl Harbor**

THE Pearl Harbor piece by Heike Hasenauer in the May edition was superb. The reason I picked up a copy of **Soldiers** in the Pentagon is because the cover photo intrigued me. Great stuff.

Charles Krohn via e-mail

JUST a note to say "Sierra Hotel" for the May cover. The coverage of Pearl Harbor was exceptional as well.

Bruce E. Zielsdorf New York, N.Y.

counts can get help from a Naval Institute website set up for just that purpose: www.navalinstitute.org/ resources/pearlharbor/pearlharbor.htm.

Another documentary option is National Geographic's home video debut of its Behind the Movie series, this first one being on Pearl Harbor. Also by National Geographic, this video release, narrated by Tom Brokaw, is "Pearl Harbor: Legacy of Attack."

Together, National Geographic said, these documentaries "offer people who love movies and the true stories behind them a bridge between fiction and fact." More information about the Pearl Harbor video offerings can be found at www.nationalgeographic.com/ pearlharbor.

#### **Guard and Reserve**

THE April issue of **Soldiers** noted a lot of significant points about military Reservists. You are helping to educate Americans about the full value of Guard and Reserve programs in these times.

The ESGR, the National Committee on Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, is playing a very big role in helping employers and their Guard/Reserve employees sustain a good working relationship. A story in **Soldiers** could help alert all concerned to key issues in this vital program.

Otto E. Melsa Memphis, Tenn.

AS it happens, we present just such a story in this issue. Turn to page 34 to read about ESGR in "The Soldier-Employer Team."

## **Army Birthday**

GEN Shinseki's letter in the June issue is confusing regarding the Army's Birthday. The letter is dated April 12, but nowhere in the letter does it state June 14 as the Army's birthday. If we are trying to educate our soldiers on the history of the Army, don't you think the date of the birthday should be included?

Todd Mayer Cincinnati, Ohio

GOOD point. A closer review of the June issue failed to show that specific date mentioned anywhere, despite all the Army birthday-related articles we ran. All of us apparently assumed that everybody in the Army automatically knew that June 14 is both Flag Day and the

Army's birthday. (But notice all the belated references to June 14 in this issue!)

### **Active-duty Soldiers**

THE "Bridging the River" article in the April issue of **Soldiers** magazine stated that four Army Reserve companies and one National Guard company took part in the bridging exercise.

The 814th Engineer Company is an active-duty company from Fort Polk, La. The picture caption stated that "Soldiers from the 652nd Engineer Company move a bridge-erection boat into position." In fact, the soldiers in the picture are SGT Gary Myers and SPC Sostenes Nunez, both active-duty soldiers from the 814th.

SGT Andrew G. Hershey Asst. Operations NCO 814th Engineer Company via E-mail

## **Getting Out**

HOW can my Reserve unit post vacancies in **Soldiers** along with other Guard and Reserve units? My unit is the 824th Quartermaster Co. operating out of Fort Bragg, N.C.

SGT Brian Wierman via e-mail

**SOLDIERS** magazine no longeraccepts vacancy notices direct from units. Input is now provided from the recruiting liaison offices of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve.

Units with vacancies should contact the recruiting coordinators at the National Guard Bureau and the Office of the Chief of Army Reserve.

The Army Reserve website at www.army.mil/usar/vacancies.htm lists vacancies. The ARNG recruiting office can be reached at (703) 607-7191 or (DSN) 327-7191.

## Korean War Update

WE have posted another interview on our Korean War Anniversary website — http://korea50.army.mil/interviews/gilbert.html. Take a look and read about Bill Gilbert, Korean Warveteran and author of "Ship of Miracles."

MSgt. Sandra A. Johnson Internet Operations Manager DOD 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee via e-mail

Soldiers is for soldiers and DA civilians. We invite readers' views. Stay under 150 words — a post card will do — and include your name, rank and address. We'll withhold your name if you desire and may condense your views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one, but we'll use representative views. Write to: Feedback, Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581, or e-mail: soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.

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